REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending. The claims have been amended for clarity and to remove multiple dependencies. No new matter is believed to be introduced by the above amendment to the claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

MAIER & NEWSTADT, P.C.

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413-2220

NFO:TWB\la

I:\ATTY\TWB\240584US-PR.DOC

Norman F. Oblon

Attorney of Record Registration No. 24,618

Thomas W. Barnes

Registration No. 52,595